



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

Sheryl L. Loesch
Clerk of Court
(407) 835-4222

March 12, 2001

**PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING
SERVICES TO PERSONS WITH COMMUNICATIONS DISABILITIES**

The United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, has implemented a policy of providing sign language interpreters or other appropriate auxiliary aids and services to participants in court proceedings who are deaf, hearing-impaired, or have other communications disabilities.

Services will be provided to parties, witnesses, and qualified jurors participating in court proceedings such as pleas, pretrial conferences, status conferences, trials, sentencings, arraignments, revocation hearings, arbitration hearings, and mediation conferences. These services will not generally be provided to spectators, absent exigent circumstances and prior approval by the court.

Each division of the Middle District of Florida has designated an access coordinator to make appropriate accommodations for persons with communications disabilities. Please contact the access coordinator in the division your case is located a minimum of seven days prior to a scheduled court proceeding to make necessary arrangements. The following is a list of the access coordinators for the Middle District of Florida:

<u>Jacksonville/Ocala Division</u> Winnie Beasley (904) 549-1963	<u>Orlando Division</u> Andrew Heathcoat (407) 835-4202
<u>Tampa Division</u> Vickie Downing (813) 301-5465	<u>Fort Myers Division</u> Libby Pointer (941) 461-2005